

This is an official

# **DHEC Health Update**

Distributed via Health Alert Network  
March 1, 2007

## **Seasonal Influenza Surveillance Interim Update**

**This update is meant to provide healthcare professionals with the latest information on:**

- Current influenza activity status in South Carolina and the U.S.
- Mandated reporting requirements for influenza
- Preferred influenza laboratory testing
- Graphs of SC and U.S. influenza activity in 2006-2007 season
- Attachment: Positive Rapid Influenza Tests Worksheet with local health department contact information

### **Current South Carolina Influenza Activity, as of February 28, 2007**

South Carolina has had peak of rapid influenza activity in late December, 2006 and again in February 2007. This activity mirrors what is happening with influenza cultures nationally.

SC state comprehensive activity: remains at REGIONAL

SC positive rapid influenza tests reported to DHEC: increased in the upstate, increased in the midlands and decreased along the coast.

SC Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) activity: Activity, above the CDC defined baseline of 2.3% ILI patients out of all patients seen in a week by sentinel providers, increased in the upstate and midlands, and decreased along the coast.

SC Bureau of Laboratories, as of February 27th 2007, are reporting 33 new cases of Influenza A/H1N1, 1 new case of Influenza A/H3N2 and 16 cases of Influenza B for a total of 94 culture confirmed cases of Influenza - 66 Influenza A/H1N1, 3 Influenza A/H3N2, and 25 Influenza B. This week we have our first cases in Pickens, Abbeville, and Beaufort counties.

Please find county level influenza activity by clicking on state maps links on the DHEC influenza information website. <http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/acute/flu.htm>

### **DHEC Preferred Influenza Laboratory Testing Practices for Seasonal Influenza**

Serological Influenza Testing is NOT Recommended for Surveillance Purposes

Routine serological testing for influenza requires paired acute and convalescent sera, does not provide timely results to help with clinical decision-making and is not generally recommended for diagnostic or epidemiologic surveillance. Serological testing results for human influenza on a single serum specimen is not interpretable and is not recommended.

### **Mandated South Carolina Influenza Reporting**

Positive Rapid Antigen Testing and Reporting to DHEC

DHEC requires weekly submission, by fax or e-mail, to the local health department of summary numbers of positive rapid influenza tests and typing identified, by Monday at noon for the preceding week. Those wishing to email this information weekly should call their local health department to identify the staff to whom the emails should be sent.

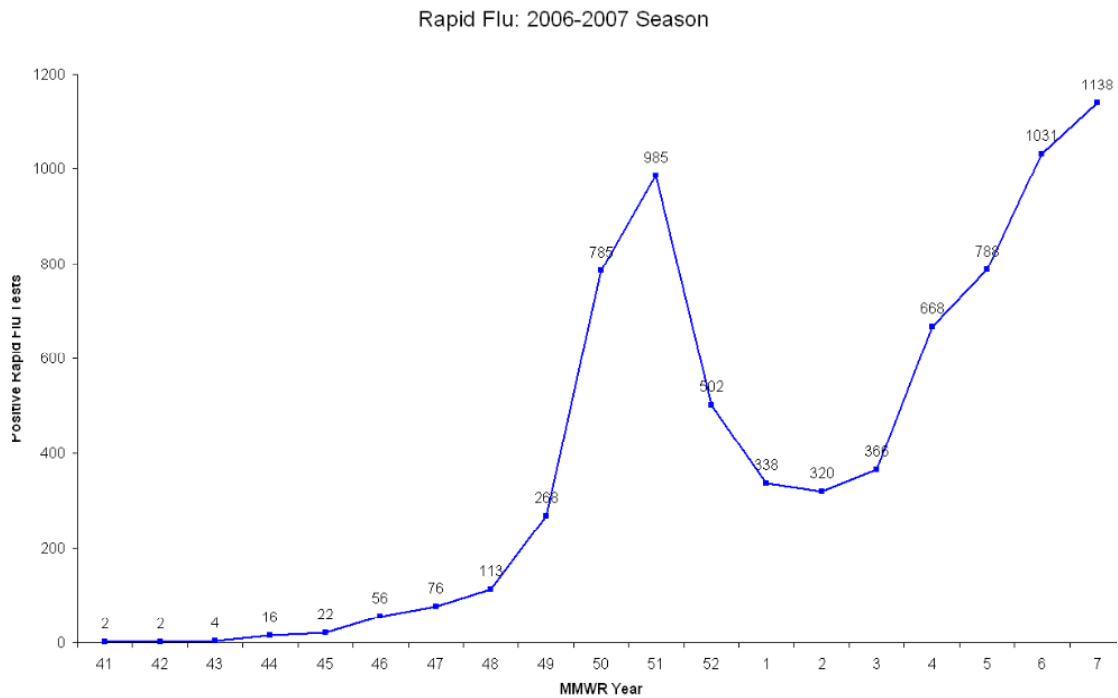
A copy of the summary weekly worksheet is attached to this health update along with the local health department contacts.

Influenza Cultures and Positive Result Reporting to DHEC

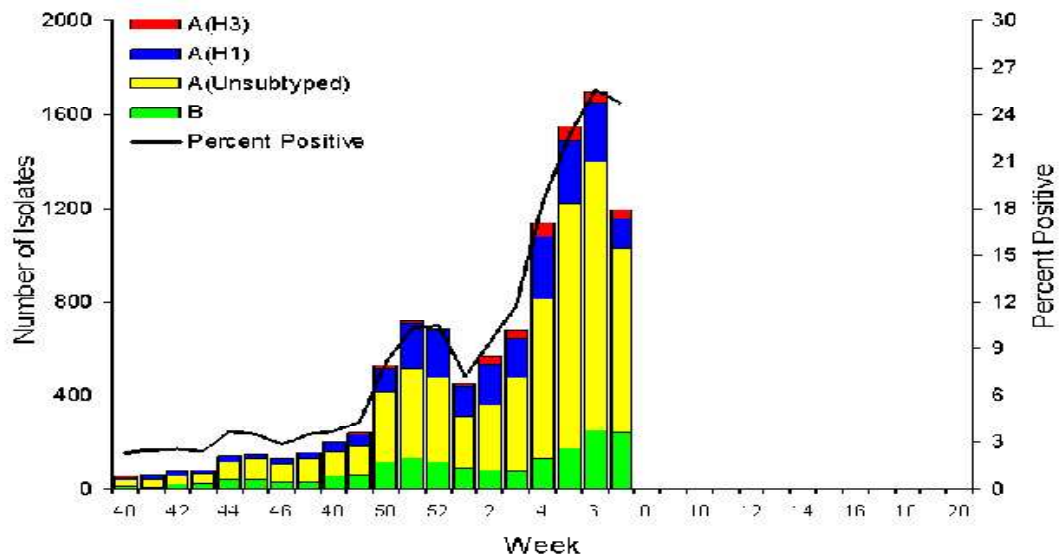
Positive influenza cultures should be reported to DHEC within 7 days. Submitted reports should include patient name, age and address, including county to your local health department.

## Graphs of SC DHEC and U.S. influenza activity in 2006-2007 season (not the same scale)

### South Carolina DHEC Reported Positive Rapid Influenza Tests Activity



### US/WHO Collaborating Laboratories Influenza Isolate Summary 2006-2007 season



CDC Reference: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/weeklyarchives2006-2007/weekly07.htm>

## **Resource Links**

### **CDC Laboratory Diagnosis of Influenza**

- <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/labdiagnosis.htm>

### **DHEC June 8, 06 Health Update on Interim Guidance on Lab Testing for Avian Influenza**

- <http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/acute/flualert.htm>

### **WHO Confirmed Human Cases of H5N1 worldwide**

- [http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian\\_influenza/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/index.html)

### **CDC Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette in Healthcare Settings:**

- [www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/resphgiene.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/resphgiene.htm)

### **CDC Guideline for Isolation Precautions in Hospitals:**

- [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/ISOLAT/Isolat.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/ISOLAT/Isolat.htm)

### **DHEC Influenza Surveillance Website:**

- <http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/acute/flu.htm>

## **DHEC Contact Information for Reportable Diseases and Reporting Requirements**

Reporting of outbreaks/clusters of cases is consistent with South Carolina Law requiring the reporting of diseases and conditions to your state or local public health department. (State Law # 44-29-10 and Regulation # 61-20) as per the DHEC 2006 List of Reportable Conditions available at: [http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/docs/reportable\\_conditions.pdf](http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/docs/reportable_conditions.pdf)

Federal HIPAA legislation allows disclosure of protected health information, without consent of the individual, to public health authorities to collect and receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease. (HIPAA 45 CFR §164.512).

# POSITIVE RAPID INFLUENZA SUMMARY WORKSHEET 2006-2007



## Guidance for use of this worksheet:

- a) This does not take the place of reporting positive influenza viral culture results, which are still reportable using the DHEC 1129 Cards.
- b) Fax or email this completed worksheet **NO LATER THAN NOON ON THE MONDAY OF THE FOLLOWING WEEK** to the Region-specific Health Department fax/phone/addresses (see below). These contact numbers are also available at: [http://www.dhec.sc.gov/health/disease/docs/reportable\\_conditions.pdf](http://www.dhec.sc.gov/health/disease/docs/reportable_conditions.pdf)
- c) This worksheet is offered as an alternative to submitting patient-specific 2006 or 2007 SC Department of Health and Environmental Control Disease Reporting Cards (DHEC 1129 cards) when reporting Influenza, positive rapid test results.
- d) Facilities using this worksheet are required to enter the:
  - a. Reporting period date (week beginning on Sunday),
  - b. Facility/Practice name,
  - c. County in which the facility/practice is located, and
  - d. Influenza type being identified (e.g., Influenza A, Influenza B, Influenza A/B, or unknown).
- e) If methodologies change such that a different influenza type is being identified during the influenza season, please update the "type of influenza being identified" section of this worksheet prior to weekly submission.

For the week beginning \_\_\_\_\_ (Sunday – Saturday)

Reporting Facility/Practice: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of influenza (A, B, A or B, or unknown) being identified via test methodology: \_\_\_\_\_

	Positive for Influenza A	Positive for Influenza B	Positive for Influenza A or B
<b>Sunday</b>			
<b>Monday</b>			
<b>Tuesday</b>			
<b>Wednesday</b>			
<b>Thursday</b>			
<b>Friday</b>			
<b>Saturday</b>			
<b>Weekly Totals</b>			

## Regional Public Health Offices – 2006-2007

Mail or call reports to the Epidemiology Office in each Public Health Region.

### Region 1

#### **Anderson, Oconee**

220 McGee Road  
Anderson, SC 29625  
Phone: (864) 260-4358  
Fax: (864) 260-5623  
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-298-4442

#### **Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Saluda**

1736 S. Main Street  
Greenwood, SC 29646  
Phone: 1-888-218-5475  
Fax: (864) 942-3690  
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-420-1915

### Region 2

#### **Greenville, Pickens**

PO Box 2507  
200 University Ridge  
Greenville, SC 29602-2507  
Phone: (864) 282-4139  
Fax: (864) 282-4373  
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-993-1186

#### **Cherokee, Spartanburg, Union**

PO Box 4217  
151 E. Wood Street  
Spartanburg, SC 29305-4217  
Phone: (864) 596-2227, x- 210  
Fax: (864) 596-3443  
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-993-1186

### Region 3

#### **Chester, Lancaster, York**

PO Box 817  
1833 Pageland Highway  
Lancaster, SC 29721  
Phone: (803) 286-9948  
Fax: (803) 286-5418  
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-867-3886

### Region 3 (continued)

#### **Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Richland**

2000 Hampton Street  
Columbia, SC 29204  
Phone: (803) 576-2749  
Fax: (803) 576-2993  
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-554-9915

### Region 4

#### **Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter**

PO Box 1628  
105 North Magnolia Street  
Sumter, SC 29150  
Phone: (803) 773-5511  
Fax: (803) 775-9941  
Nights/Weekends: 1-877-831-4647

#### **Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marlboro, Marion**

145 E. Cheves Street  
Florence, SC 29506  
Phone: (843) 661-4830  
Fax: (843) 661-4859  
Nights / Weekends: (843) 660-8145

### Region 5

#### **Bamberg, Calhoun, Orangeburg**

PO Box 1126  
1550 Carolina Avenue  
Orangeburg, SC 29116  
Phone: (803) 533-7199  
Fax: (803) 533-7134  
Nights / Weekends: (803) 954-8513

#### **Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell**

1680 Richland Avenue, W. Suite 40  
Aiken, SC 29801  
Phone: (803) 642-1618  
Fax: (803) 643-8386  
Nights / Weekends: (803) 827-8668 or  
1-800-614-1519

### Region 6

Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg  
2830 Oak Street  
Conway, SC 29526-4560  
Phone: (843) 365-3126, x-138 or x-174  
Fax: (843) 365-3153  
Nights / Weekends: (843) 381-6710

### Region 7

#### **Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester**

4050 Bridge View Drive, Suite 600  
N. Charleston, SC 29405  
Phone: (843) 746-3806  
Fax: (843) 746-3851  
Nights / Weekends: (843) 219-8470

### Region 8

#### **Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper**

219 S. Lemacks Street  
Walterboro, SC 29488  
Phone: (843) 549-1516, x-214  
Fax: (843) 549-6845  
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-614-4698

### DHEC Bureau of Disease Control

#### **Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology**

1751 Calhoun Street  
Box 101106  
Columbia, SC 29211  
Phone: (803) 898-0861  
Fax: (803) 898-0897  
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-847-0902



[www.scdhec.gov](http://www.scdhec.gov)